



Brownfields 2009 Assessment Grant Fact Sheet

Framingham, MA



EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On February 17, 2009, President Barack Obama signed into law the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Recovery Act is an unprecedented effort to jumpstart our economy, and create or save millions of jobs. This law provided stimulus funds to the Brownfields Program to award grants to evaluate and clean up former industrial and commercial sites. Under this law, EPA will provide financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants.

Community Description

The Town of Framingham was selected to receive a brownfields assessment grant. Located 20 miles west of Boston, Framingham (population 67,000) is the largest town in Massachusetts. The first industries in Framingham produced textiles, and the downtown area included a paper manufacturer and several automobile facilities. The town's transition from industry and manufacturing has created brownfield sites that pose a significant barrier to sustainable economic growth, resulting in disinvestment. The target area includes Framingham's downtown and southeast areas, especially sites affected by automotive activities. Although manufacturing jobs still represent a significant source of employment in the town, the number of these jobs has declined from 14,888 in 1985 to just over 4,100 jobs today. In the target areas, the median income is about 70 percent of the town median. Brownfield assessments will provide the community with information about the extent of contamination at these sites and are expected to set the stage for revitalizing the town.

Assessment Grant

\$200,000 for petroleum (Recovery Act Funding)

EPA has selected the Town of Framingham for a brownfields assessment grant. Community-wide petroleum grant funds will be used to inventory brownfield sites and conduct up to 12 Phase I and 6 Phase II environmental site assessments in downtown and southeast Framingham. Grant funds also will be used to support community outreach activities.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team
(617) 918-1424

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Web site
(<http://www.epa.gov/region1/brownfields>)

Grant Recipient: Town of Framingham, MA
(508) 532-5455

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.